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u.s. coast guard news

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Steering failure plagues tug & tow entering San Diego bay

SAN DIEGO -- Early this morning the tug Kahu lost its steering while towing a 4100 ton loaded sand barge into San Diego Bay.

The Coast Guard's Marine Safety Office was notified of the incident at 3 a.m. The failure was reportedly caused by a malfunction of a hydraulic valve. The vessel's steering was temporarily repaired. The Coast Guard Captain of the Port ordered the vessel to enter port under tug escort to ensure the safety of the port and the vessel.

The vessel, which was under the control of a San Diego pilot during its transit, was safely moored at 8:30 a.m. without further incident.

Coast Guard Marine Safety Officers will examine the vessel's steering system today to investigate this incident and to ensure the vessel is again safe to operate.

The 67' tug Kahu is operated by the Sause Brothers Ocean Towing Company of Portland, Oregon.

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